



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/615,837	07/10/2003	Eric Kao	2450-0519P	8752
2292	7590	11/30/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			BLOUNT, ERIC	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2636	

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/615,837

Applicant(s)

KAO, ERIC

Examiner

Eric M. Blount

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## ETAILED ACTION

### *Specification*

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the use of the word "time" on line 3. The word "time" should be replaced with the word "times". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested:

*Multi-detection Apparatus for Activating Different Devices at Different Times*

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacob et al [U.S. Patent No. 5781108] in view of Tice et al [U.S. Patent No. 6392536].

Regarding **claim 1**, Jacobs discloses a detection apparatus installed at a surveillance location to activate different devices at different times. The system comprises a control circuit and at least two detection units which have output ends connecting to input ends of the control circuit board (Figures 1 & 3). When the detection

units detect a detecting target at a different time, the control circuit board receives signal at a different time output from the detection units and activates the different devices at different times to achieve multiple detection and surveillance functions (column 4, lines 1-30). Jacobs shows that detectors monitor the presence of an intruder around the perimeter of a building. As the detectors detect a target moving closer to the entrance of the building different warning devices are activated. This reasonably appears to meet the limitation of the detection units detecting a target at different times. Jacobs does not specifically teach a multi-detection apparatus, wherein a multi-detection apparatus is understood as an apparatus, which utilizes multiple types of sensors.

Tice discloses a multi-detection apparatus detector that may include one or more types of sensors (column 1, line 63-column 2, line 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to combine the detection apparatus disclosed by Jacobs with the multiple sensors within one detection device as taught by Tice because a combination would result in multi-detection device that would provide added security. The use of multiple sensor detectors would allow several types of conditions to be detected thus providing more security at a monitored location.

As for **claim 2**, Jacobs teaches the use of ultrasonic and infrared sensors (column 3, lines 25-30 and 59-62). Tice teaches the use of several types of sensors including gas, temperature, motion and occupancy sensors (column 3). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant that any of these sensors could be selectively provided in a detection unit.

As for **claim 3**, Tice discloses a system wherein two or more detection units are installed in a shell (column 1, lines 63-67). Each sensor is interpreted as constituting a detection unit.

Regarding **claim 4**, Jacobs discloses an apparatus wherein detection units are installed at different locations including outdoors and a stairway or hallway (Figures 1 and 2).

As for **claims 5 and 6**, Tice discloses that control units may activate the devices in a hardwired or wireless fashion (column 4, line 58 – column 5, line 5). It is obvious that if control units are communicating with an outside device that a transmitter would be present in the control unit. Likewise a receiver must be present in a device to be activated. If the transmitter were not present in the control unit or the receiver not present in the device, the apparatus would not function properly in a wireless fashion.

As for **claim 7**, Jacobs discloses that several types of devices may be activated using the detection apparatus (column 4, lines 1-30 and column 8, lines 20-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant that several types of devices and responses could have been selectively incorporated into the apparatus. One might want different types of devices to monitor different types of environments. The use of certain devices and responses can be viewed merely as a design choice.

**Conclusion**

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Though not used in this action, Eckel et al, Rankin et al, Bingham, Skoff, and Ford all disclose detection apparatus that were useful during the examination of this application.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric M. Blount whose telephone number is (571) 272-2973. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Eric M. Blount  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2636

\*\*\*

  
JEFFERY HOFSSASS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600